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(54) Title: A METHOD OF IMMUNOMODULATION

(57) ~~Abstract:~~ The present invention relates generally to a method for modulating the immuno-activity of an antigen-presenting cell and agents useful therefor. More particularly, the present invention relates to a method for preventing or down-regulating one or more functional activities of a dendritic cell. The present invention further provides antibodies and, in particular, monoclonal antibodies, which interact specifically with epitopes present on the surface of dendritic cells, resulting in depletion, down-regulation or destruction of targeted dendritic cell in vivo or in vitro. The instant invention further provides a method for modulating an immune response in a subject and, in particular, for down-regulating the immuno-activity of an allogeneic immuno-competent graft and/or the immune response of a recipient of a solid organ transplant. The ability to modulate dendritic cell immuno-activity may be useful, inter alia, in a range of immuno-therapeutic and immuno-prophylactic treatments that benefit from immune suppression.

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